

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph at page 17, lines 13-17 with the following:

-- U.S. patent applications having Ser. Nos. 09/636,711, now U.S. Patent No. 6,342,560; 09/636,312; 09/636,310, now U.S. Patent No. 6,649,684; 09/636,308; 09/636,311, now U.S. Patent No. 6,649,684 and 10/041,114 which published as U.S. Published Application No. US 2002-0107316 A1; disclose suitable coating compositions and methods of coating silica particles which may be used in the present invention, and the associated patents and patent publications of which by reference are incorporated herein. --